

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 PM-05 CIAE-00 INR-10
L-03 ACDA-12 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 ICA-11
TRSE-00 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-10 DODE-00 EA-10 H-01
NASA-01 NEA-10 NSC-05 OIC-02 DOE-15 CEQ-01 OES-07
/159 W

-----019920 151021Z /14

R 142045Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0146
INFO USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 12385

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, IO, CCD, PCAT, UN, FR
SUBJ: CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFER (CAT) RESTRAINT AND
THE SSOD

REFS: A. STATE 087919. B. STATE 084734.

1. SUMMARY: WE HAVE BROUGHT REFTELS TO ATTENTION OF
FOREIGN MINISTRY DISARMAMENT CHIEF. GOF WILL BE REVIEW-
ING THE BIDDING FOR SSOD IN NEAR FUTURE AT INTER-
MINISTERIAL MEETING CHAIRED BY PRESIDENT GISCARD.
END SUMMARY.

2. PURSUANT TO INSTRUCTIONS IN REFTELS, EMBASSY
OFFICER DISCUSSED SSOD AND CAT WITH JACQUES DE LA
FERRIERE, CHIEF OF PACTS AND DISARMAMENT SERVICE.

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3. POL/MIL OFFICER RAISED CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFERS
RESTRAINT WITH LA FERRIERE, GOING OVER REF A CONCERNS
THAT POSSIBLE SSOD ACTION ON RESTRAINT ON TRANSFERS
MIGHT BE LINKED TO RESTRAINTS ON PRODUCTION OR
DEVELOPMENT. LA FERRIERE RESPONDED THAT GOF IS WELL
ATTUNED TO DANGERS IMPLIED BY UNACCEPTABLE RESTRICTIONS
ON ARMAMENTS DEVELOPMENT AND/OR PRODUCTION. IT WAS

FOR THIS REASON THAT FRANCE PUT THE EMPHASIS ON RECIPIENT NATIONS IN ITS PROPOSAL RE CONVENTIONAL ARMS, STATING THAT THE INITIATIVE SHOULD COME FROM WITHIN A REGION AND ENJOY A CONSENSUS, AT WHICH POINT FRANCE WOULD HONOR SUCH RESTRAINT.

4. LA FERRIERE CONTINUED THAT HE AGREED WITH THE US GOAL OF FINDING A FORMULA WHICH WOULD AVOID LIMITS ON OUR PRODUCTION, OR THAT OF OUR ALLIES, OR HINDER DEFENSE RELATIONSHIPS. HE SAID THAT WE SHOULD COOPERATE IN DIVERTING ATTACKS ON ARMAMENTS PRODUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT.

5. RE REF B, TALKING POINTS ON US OBJECTIVES AT SSOD, LA FERRIERE:

A. AGREED WE SHOULD SEEK A NON-CONFRONTATIONAL MEETING.

B. ENDORSED A STATEMENT BY US REP REPORTING ON ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS (SALT, CTB, CW, ETC.).

C. AGREED WITH OUR VIEWS ON THE DECLARATION ON DISARMAMENT.

D. CALLED THE PROGRAM OF ACTION MUCH MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE DECLARATION AND AGREED WITH OUR GENERAL GOALS.

6. RE MULTILATERAL MACHINERY FOR DISARMAMENT, LA CONFIDENTIAL

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FERRIERE ACCEPTED THAT THERE SHOULD BE A NEGOTIATING BODY WITH A MEMBERSHIP INCLUDING THE MILITARILY SIGNIFICANT STATES OPERATING BY CONSENSUS. HE SAID THAT FRANCE DID NOT WANT A "RUPTURE" FROM THE CCD EXPERIENCE WHICH COULD BE USEFUL FOR A NEW ENTITY. COMMENT: BY ACCEPTING THE INCLUSION OF MILITARILY SIGNIFICANT STATES, LA FERRIERE MAY HAVE HAD IN MIND THE FIVE PERMANENT SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS, WHICH IS PART OF THE FRENCH CONCEPT. END COMMENT.

7. LA FERRIERE ENDED BY SAYING THAT THIS US THINKING IS USEFUL AT THIS POINT AS PRESIDENT GISCARD WILL IN THE NEAR FUTURE (PERHAPS APRIL 19) CONVOKE A "RESTRICTED" INTERMINISTERIAL MEETING TO REVIEW PREPARATIONS FOR THE SSOD.
HARTMAN

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Message Attributes

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